

STATE OF RHODE ISLAND AND PROVIDENCE PLANTATIONS
PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION

IN RE: ISSUANCE OF ADVISORY OPINION TO THE ENERGY
FACILITY SITING REGARDING NARRAGANSETT ELECTRIC
COMPANY D/B/A NATIONAL GRID'S APPLICATION TO
CONSTRUCT AND ALTER MAJOR ENERGY FACILITIES

DOCKET NO. 4029

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Pursuant to the provisions of Sections 39-1-1, 42-98-9(d) and 42-98-9(e) of the Rhode Island General Laws, as amended, the Public Utilities Commission (the "Commission") will conduct a hearing on **Wednesday, April 29, 2009 at 9:30 AM** in the first-floor hearing room of the Public Utilities Commission, 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, Rhode Island. The hearing may continue thereafter from day to day and time to time as required.

On September 8, 2008, the Narragansett Electric Co. d/b/a National Grid ("NGrid") filed with the Energy Facility Siting Board (the "EFSB") an application for a license to construct and alter major energy facilities in the municipalities of Cranston, Johnston, North Smithfield, Smithfield, Warwick and West Warwick. Specifically, National Grid's application seeks a license to construct a new 345 kilovolt (kV) transmission line, relocate, reconstruct, and, in some cases, reconductor existing 115 kV transmission lines, and add equipment to two existing substations (collectively, the "Project.")

On December 19, 2008, the EFSB issued a Notice of Designation to the Commission to render an Advisory Opinion as to the need and cost-justification for the Project. The Advisory Opinion to the EFSB is due by June 15, 2009.

At this hearing, the Commission will evaluate a recommendation concerning the need and cost-justification of the proposed Project to be jointly submitted by the Rhode Island Division of Public Utilities, State Energy Office and Statewide Planning Program to the Commission prior to the

issuance of an advisory opinion to the EFSB which application is pending before the EFSB. Due to specific Commission mandate under the Energy Facility Siting Act, speakers will be limited to their comments, to the Commission, to a discussion “as to the need to construct or alter transmission lines.”

The deadline to file a Motion to Intervene as a party in this docket is February 10, 2009. The following represents a summary of scheduled hearing dates and dates on which filings are to be submitted in the docket:

02/20/09	NGrid’s Pre-Filed Testimony
03/13/09	Affected Communities, Attorney General, and Intervenors’ Pre-Filed Testimony
04/08/09	Division of Public Utilities & Carriers’ Pre-Filed Testimony
04/20/09	Pre-Filed Rebuttal Testimony, if any, filed by all parties
04/29/09-05/01/09	9:30 A.M. Evidentiary Hearings
05/07/09	Evidentiary Hearing (if needed)
TBD	Briefs, if necessary

The docket and related documents are on file for examination at the Commission Clerk’s office located at 89 Jefferson Boulevard, Warwick, Rhode Island. The docket can also be accessed under the Commission’s Docket Menu at www.ripuc.org, Docket No. 4029.

Reference is made to Chapters 39-1, 39-3 and 42-35 of the Rhode Island General Laws; specifically Sections 39-1-7, 39-1-8, 39-1-11, 39-1-12, 39-1-18, 39-1-20, 42-35-8 and 42-35-10.

The Public Utilities Commission is accessible to the handicapped. Individuals requesting interpreter services for the hearing impaired must notify the Commission Clerk’s office at 941-4500 seventy-two hours in advance of hearing date.

Luly E. Massaro
Commission Clerk
January 23, 2009